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ADVENTURES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

UNIT 3: Americans Move West

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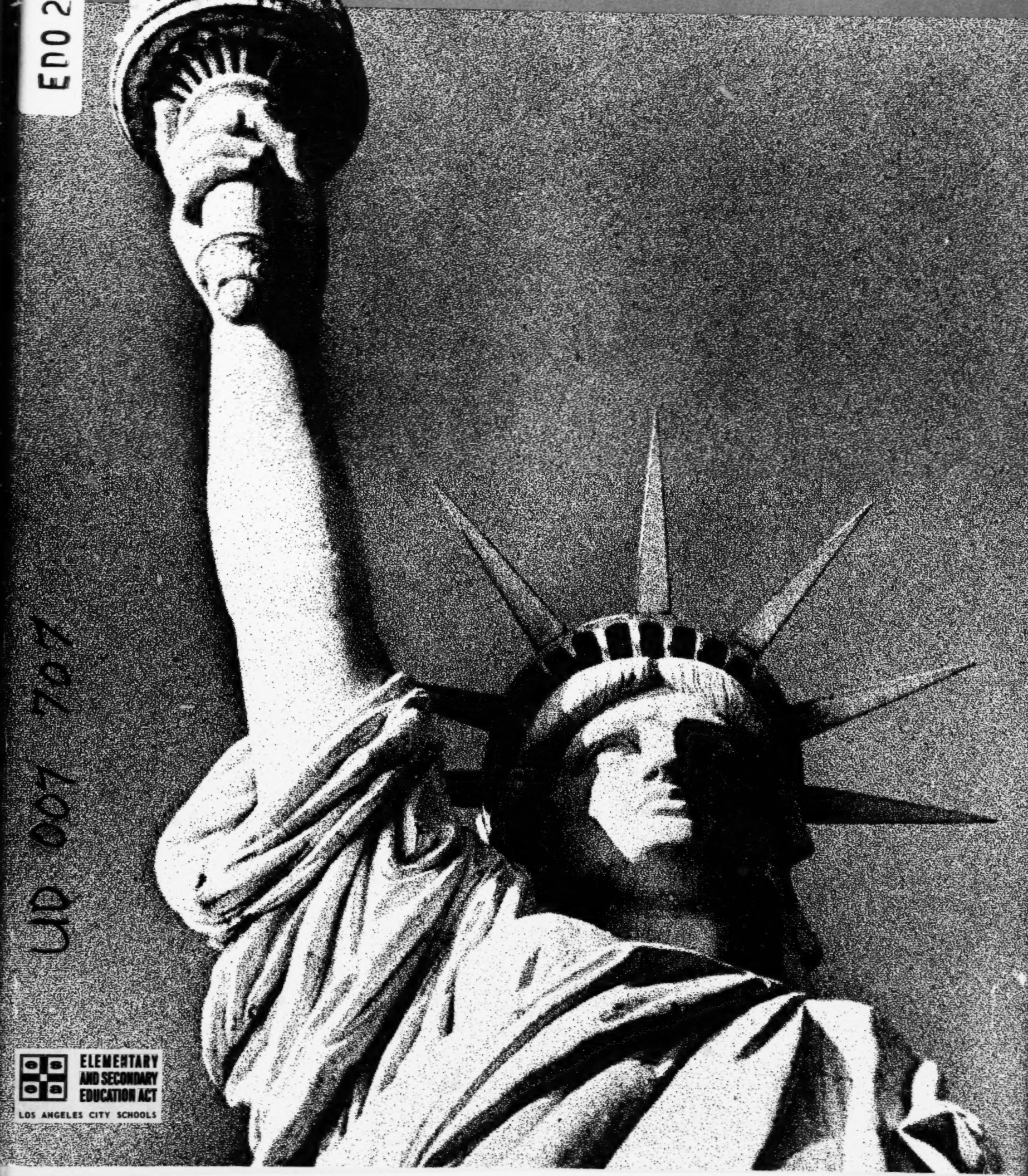

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ADVENTURES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

UNIT 3: AMERICANS MOVE WEST

FOR PUPILS IN
UNITED STATES HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 1

LOS ANGELES CITY SCHOOLS
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS iii

CHAPTER ONE: EARLY EXPLORERS AND TRAPPERS LEAD THE WAY TO THE WEST 1

Summary Reading 1

Enrichment 1: The Trapper and the Hunter 4

Enrichment 2: Daniel Boone, Man of the Frontier 6

Enrichment 3: James Beckwourth 9

Chapter Review Discussion 11

CHAPTER TWO: AMERICA GAINS NEW LANDS IN THE WEST 13

Summary Reading 13

Enrichment 1: Map of Land Acquired by U.S. After War With Mexico 17

Enrichment 2: Tom Meets Sam Houston 19

Enrichment 3: Inheritance From Spain and Mexico 22

Chapter Review Discussion 25

CHAPTER THREE: CALIFORNIA'S EARLY HISTORY 27

Summary Reading 27

Enrichment 1: Ray Discovers Father Serra 30

Enrichment 2: The California Gold Rush 33

Enrichment 3: Map of California 35

Chapter Review Discussion 37

CHAPTER FOUR: AMERICANS SETTLE THE GREAT PLAINS 39

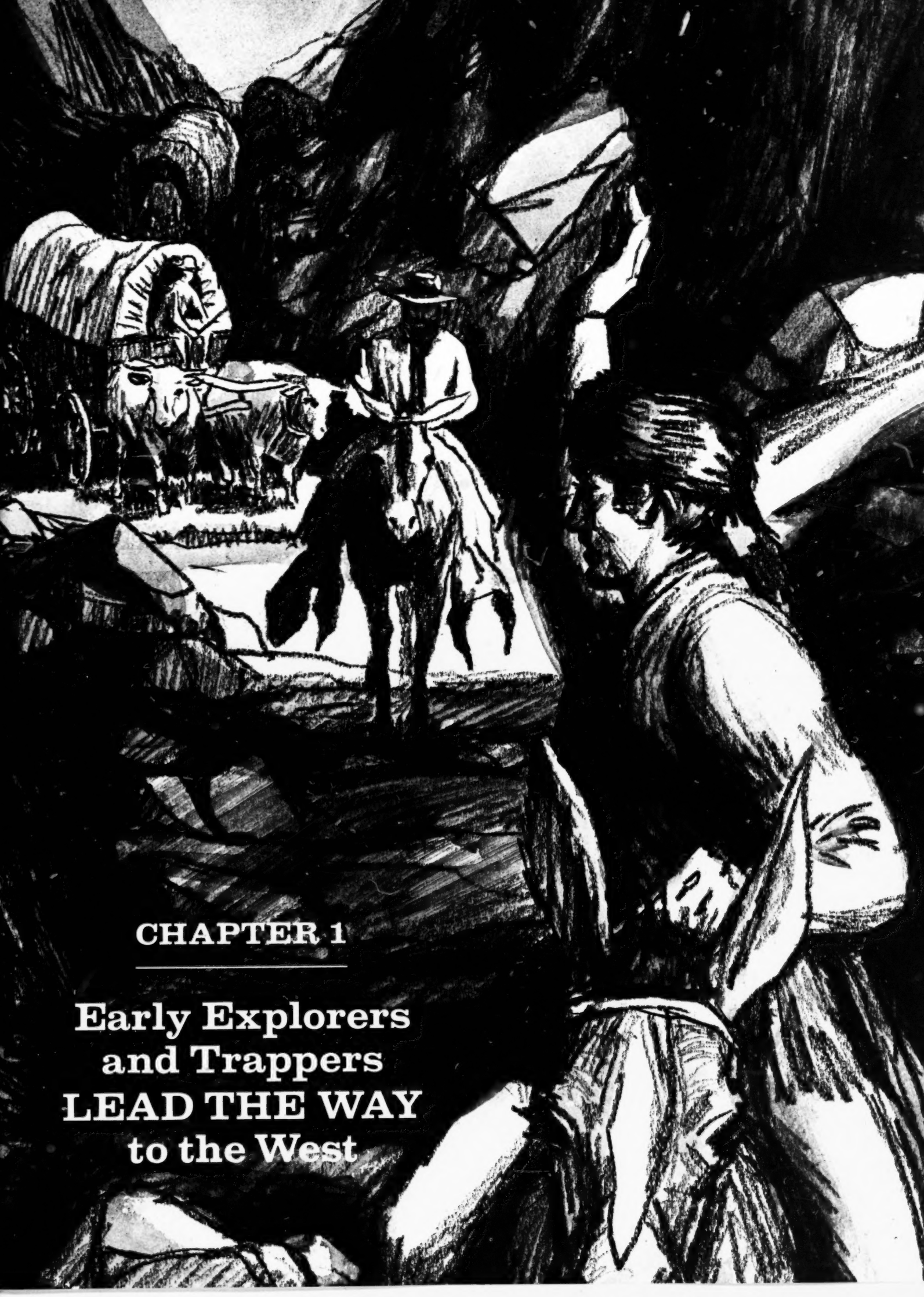
Summary Reading 39

Enrichment 1: The American Cowboys 42

Enrichment 2: The Cowboys Meet 45

Enrichment 3: The Indians of the Great Plains 48

Chapter Review Discussion 50



CHAPTER 1

Early Explorers and Trappers LEAD THE WAY to the West

SUMMARY READING

VOCABULARY

Watch for these words in today's reading. They are underlined in the story. Try to understand how these underlined words are used in the story.

1. pioneer
2. settle
3. trapper
4. self-reliant
5. rich soil
6. game
7. hostile

Are you sometimes afraid to try to so something you have never done before? Most of us are afraid to try something new. In today's story, you will read about people who were brave enough to do something new.

WHO MOVED WEST BEFORE THE SETTLERS?

Many pioneer families settled west of the thirteen states in the late 1700's and early 1800's. However, the settlers owed a great deal to the hunters and trappers who went west before them.

WHY WERE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS SO IMPORTANT?

The hunters and trappers were important for two reasons. First, their stories made other people interested in the land to the west. The hunters and trappers told exciting stories about what they saw there. They said, "There is rich soil, and plenty of game out there!" The second reason that these men were so important was that they made new trails or discovered old ones; usually, old Indian trails. Other people then could follow these trails. A hunter or trapper found the best way to get to rich land. Often, he "marked" the trail so that other men could follow. He might mark a trail by cutting notches in trees or by placing logs in a certain way. As these trails often were along a river, he found the best places to cross rivers, too.

WHAT WERE SOME HARDSHIPS THE PIONEERS FACED?

Pioneer families followed the trails of the trappers and hunters. These families faced many hardships and dangers. They had to be on the lookout for hostile Indians. They had to clear the trees from their land so that they could grow crops. They had to build their log cabin homes; and, often, they had to make their own furniture. Sometimes, they used greased paper for windows and leather straps for hinges. Life was not easy.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE WERE THE PIONEERS?

The pioneer was a special kind of person. He was glad to share things with his neighbors. He worked very hard, doing many things for himself. Someone who does things for himself is self-reliant. Although pioneers had to be self-reliant, they depended on their friends and neighbors at times. Pioneers were glad to help each other in the time of need. The pioneer had personal qualities that we often admire. Some examples would be that he was self-reliant, friendly, and willing to help others.

WHY DID SETTLERS CHOOSE A CERTAIN PLACE TO SETTLE?

In time, many pioneers chose the same place to settle, usually for a good reason. It might be because there was rich land, because it was a center for trading, or because it was near a river. As more people came to a settlement in the

West, it grew into a town. Sometimes, it even grew into a city.

We owe much to the brave men who moved west: first, the trappers and hunters who led the way; then, the pioneer settlers who were not afraid to start a new life.

ACTIVITY 1

VOCABULARY

The words below were underlined in the story. Copy each word and match it with the meaning it has in this story. Then, write the meaning next to the word.

1. pioneer	a. able to do things for yourself
2. settle	b. animals that can be hunted
3. trapper	c. a place crops can grow
4. rich soil	d. someone who settles a place first
5. game	e. not friendly
6. hostile	f. to live in one place
7. self-reliant	g. a man who traps animals

ACTIVITY 2

READING FOR MAIN IDEAS

Under each topic are two sentences. Copy the one sentence that is correct for each part of the story.

1. Moving west
   a. The settlers owed much to the government.
   b. The settlers owed much to the hunters and trappers.
2. Hunters and trappers
   a. Hunters and trappers interested other people in the land to the west.
   b. Hunters and trappers hid the trails to the west.
3. Pioneers
   a. Pioneers usually refused to share things with their neighbors.
   b. Pioneers were self-reliant.
4. A place to settle
   a. Many pioneers chose the same place to settle.
   b. The government made pioneers settle in the same place.

ACTIVITY 3

WHAT WAS SAID FIRST?

Next to each number are two sentences. For each number, copy the sentence that was said FIRST. Remember, the hunter and the trapper came first; then came the settler.

1. a. "Ah! What a fine beaver I trapped!"
   b. "This looks like a good spot to grow our crops."
2. a. "Say! Some trapper left a mark on the tree to show us the trail."
   b. "Ah! What a fine collection of furs I have."
3. a. "Yep! I just shot another deer. I like it here all alone."
   b. "We are building our cabin near the river."

ACTIVITY 4

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Do you think the early pioneers would have been in favor of the government paying their doctor bills? Explain your answer.
2. Would you like to live in a frontier area today, such as some parts of Alaska? Explain your answer.

Enrichment 1: THE TRAPPER AND THE HUNTER

Today, when someone wants a man for a job, he may put an ad in a newspaper. Imagine that someone wanted to place an ad for a trapper or hunter in the early 1800's. Here are some things he might write in his ad.

"Wanted: Boy brave enough to fight off hostile Indians or to face a 1200-pound grizzly bear. You may run into rattlesnakes, too. Cowards need not apply for the job."

TRAPPER AND HUNTER WANTED

A person wanting one of these jobs might be told this by the person doing the hiring.

"I need someone who likes hard, dirty, and dangerous work. You may run into a grizzly bear that weighs ten times as much as you do. You must be careful he doesn't catch you. A rattlesnake may bite you. Just in case one does, take some gunpowder along to burn out the poison. That usually does the trick.

"Dress warmly. You will be going up mountain streams to trap beavers and other animals. The winter can be rough. Your feet might freeze. You might run out of food and starve to death. Of course, if you're lucky, you'll remember that you always can eat your moccasins.

"When you get into Indian country, watch out! Some Indians don't like you taking their game. Keep that rifle out in front of you all the time."

KNOW YOUR WAY

"You have to know your business. It's hard to outsmart animals. You have to know how to follow their trails. You have to know how to skin them. You'd better be able to handle a knife and an ax, too.

"Of course, after you have been hunting or trapping for a few months, you will have a good supply of furs or skins. You have to hide them in a safe cave. More than one trapper or hunter has had his furs or skins stolen. But, if you're lucky—if you get your supply out, if you beat the weather, if the Indians leave you alone, and if the rattlesnakes don't bite you—you will make yourself some money."

BE YOUR OWN BOSS

Do you think you would have answered that ad? Not many men want that kind of life now, and not many did then. It took a special kind of man, one who was willing to take a chance to make money. But also he wanted to be free and alone, to be his own boss. The settlers who came later owed a great deal to this kind of man. The hunters and trappers never meant to stay in one place. What they did, though, was to make trails from east to west. The settlers were afraid to go west without trails, but once the hunters and trappers made trails, the settlers soon followed. The settlers—and we today—have to thank these trappers and hunters for leading the way to the West. We followed their trails.

ACTIVITY 1

FIND THE TRAPPER OR HUNTER

Copy ONLY those sentences which are things a trapper or a hunter might have said. Do not copy the others.

1. "I will never go where it's cold."
2. "I'm willing to take a chance."
3. "I'm a pretty fussy eater."

4. "Ouch! I never did learn how to use an ax."
5. "I know how to get along with the Indians."
6. "I can't stand dirt."
7. "I made trails from east to west."
8. "A good place at last. I'm never moving from here!"

ACTIVITY 2

ON THE LOOK-OUT

What are some things a trapper or a hunter might have seen in the wilderness? Copy ONLY those things that he might have seen while moving west. Do not copy the others.

1. a beaver
2. a tiger
3. a school
4. Indians
5. a mountain
6. a river
7. arrows
8. signs
9. a deer
10. an elephant
11. a grizzly bear
12. a canoe
13. a snake
14. animal skins
15. birds
16. store
17. flashlight
18. a rabbit

ACTIVITY 3

TAKE YOUR CHOICE

Trappers and hunters had to travel light. They would have liked to take many things with them besides their weapons, but they knew the importance of speed in the wilderness.

Pretend you are a trapper or a hunter. Here is a list of ten things you probably would like to take with you into the wilderness, but you have room for only five. List on your paper the five things you think would be most important for you to have along.

a. extra pair of socks
b. beads and mirrors for trading
c. canteen for water
d. guitar
e. sewing kit
f. medicine kit
g. fishing string and hooks
h. frying pan
i. ax
j. heavy blanket

Enrichment 2: DANIEL BOONE, MAN OF THE FRONTIER

Do you think there is adventure in your life today? Compare your life with Daniel Boone's, in Kentucky.

Most of the settlers who moved west were brave. Why, then, do we make something special out of Daniel Boone? Well, some of the bravest men were the ones who came first—the ones who paved the way. Daniel Boone was one of the brave men who paved the way.

BOONE HELPS HIS FAMILY

Daniel Boone was born in a log cabin on the frontier in 1734. When he was only twelve, his father gave him a rifle. Daniel soon became a "crack shot." At thirteen, he already was bringing in meat for his family of five brothers and sisters.

Daniel Boone learned all there was to learn about the wilderness. He got to know Indians well. He learned how to trap animals. Because he did not go to school like you, he did not learn to read books well, but he did learn everything he needed to know about the wilderness. A bent twig or a footprint in the wilderness told him many things he wanted to know.

As Daniel grew up, first in Pennsylvania and later in North Carolina, he became a hunter and a trapper. Sometimes, he would spend months alone in the woods. He was a natural outdoorsman.

BOONE HEADS FOR KENTUCKY

One day, a peddler came by Daniel Boone's cabin. He told Daniel about a beautiful land to the west—the land of Kentucky. It had fine soil and was rich in game. It had no settlers yet because it was on the other side of the Appalachian mountains. That was all Daniel Boone had to hear. By this time, he was married and had children, but the wilderness called him, and he answered that call.

In 1767, Daniel Boone, along with three other men, used an old Indian trail to cross the mountains to get into Kentucky. Later, Daniel Boone blazed (marked out) a trail through the mountains into Kentucky. In 1775, he led his family and other pioneers to a spot near the Kentucky River. Here they started a settlement they named Boonesborough.

BOONE ESCAPES FROM INDIANS

Daniel Boone had some exciting adventures when he was opening up Kentucky.

Once, he was captured by Indians. They took his furs and horses and then set him free. He trailed the Indians and took back his horses. Again, Indians trailed him; and, this time, they took him, along with the horses. A few days later, Daniel Boone managed to escape for good.

Another time, Daniel Boone was surrounded by Indians. He jumped from a cliff, landed in a tree, and escaped. He had other narrow escapes from Indians.

BOONE HAS SOME BAD TIMES

Daniel Boone was not always so lucky. Once, he was shot in the ankle, and would have been tomahawked had a friend not carried him to safety. Another time, he spent a whole winter trapping and hunting. He stored his furs carefully. Then, Indians took all the stored furs and skins.

Daniel Boone and his family suffered a great deal. One of his sons was killed and scalped by Indians. Later, Boone's daughter was kidnapped by the Indians, but he was able to get her back.

PEOPLE ADMIRE DANIEL BOONE

The people who knew Daniel Boone admired him and said he was a great man. If you asked them why, these are some of the answers they gave:

"Even though he had fights with Indians, he really hated bloodshed."

"He was a natural leader."

"He was brought up as a Quaker. As a Quaker, he did not believe in hating other people. Even

though he fought the Indians to save his life, he never hated them."

"He had plenty to get excited about, but nothing seemed to bother him. He was always calm."

"He loved the outdoors because it made him feel free."

"He was always ready to help others. He was honest."

"He did not like to brag."

THE EXAMPLE OF BOONE

We admire Daniel Boone today. He is an example of the brave men who were not afraid of the wilderness. He made it possible for other settlers to move into Kentucky.

Now that you have read about Daniel Boone, what do you admire most about him?

ACTIVITY 1

CHECKING THE FACTS

Number from 1 to 9 on a sheet of paper. For each number, write the answer that should be in each blank below.

My name is Daniel Boone. I was born in a __1__ in 1734. I learned how to hunt and __2__ animals. A __3__ told me about Kentucky. I used an old Indian trail to cross the mountains to __4__. I was captured by the __5__. I lost one of my __6__, but I did not give up. People think I am a natural __7__. Even though I fought some Indians, I never __8__ them. I think I will be remembered most because of my love for the __9__. It makes me feel free.

ACTIVITY 2

TELL THE TRUTH

Imagine that you overheard some people talking about Daniel Boone. Copy the statements about Daniel Boone that you think are TRUE.

1. "He was born rich."
2. "He liked to read books."
3. "He was part of a large family."
4. "He knew about Kentucky before anyone else."
5. "He was afraid of Indians."
6. "He hated the Indians."
7. "He did not give up easily."
8. "He loved the outdoors."
9. "He tried to help other people."
10. "He bragged a good deal."

ACTIVITY 3

A LETTER

Imagine you took a trip with Daniel Boone. Write a short letter to a friend. Tell him about your adventures with Boone in the wilderness.

Enrichment 3: JAMES BECKWOURTH

"Danny, are you finished with your classwork?" asked Mr. Stokes, the history teacher.

"Almost," said Danny, as he closed the book he was reading.

"Then put away that book and complete the assignment. We only have ten more minutes before the bell," said Mr. Stokes.

Danny was just able to finish his classwork when the teacher asked row monitors to collect the papers. The bell rang, the teacher dismissed the class, and the students started to their next class.

Danny had a friend named Robert in his history class. The two boys also had the same English class the next period. As they started walking down the hall, Robert said, "Trying to catch up on your English homework in history, huh? But you got caught."

"I wasn't doing my homework," said Danny. "I did my homework last night. The book that I was reading was a book I got from the library."

Danny showed the cover of the book to his friend and continued talking.

"I checked this book out yesterday, and I can't put it down. Since we were studying about the western frontier, I wanted to know more about some of the frontiersmen like Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett. When I went to the library, I found out there were some Negro frontiersmen, too."

"No kidding. I didn't know that," said Robert.

JAMES BECKWOURTH, FRONTIERSMAN

"I didn't either," said Danny. "I'm almost finished reading about James Beckwourth now. What an exciting life that guy had. I learned that a Negro's life on the frontier was different than it was in other places in the country. Color didn't matter much out there. For the most part, a man was a man on the frontier."

"What did you find out about this James Beckwourth?" asked Robert. "What did he do on the frontier?"

"He did many different things. That's what made his life so exciting. For example, he was a hunter, a trapper, and a fur trader. He even served as a guide for wagon trains. Because he could speak a little of some of the Indian languages, he was also an interpreter. Sometimes he was a translator for both the settlers and the Indians when they wanted to talk to each other. You know, he would tell the Indians what was being said by the white men, and then tell the white men what the Indians were saying."

ADVENTURES OF JAMES BECKWOURTH

"Tell me about some of his exciting adventures," said Robert.

"Well, he had quite a few," said Danny. "Physical danger became a part of his daily living. Beckwourth loved the rugged type of life, though. On the frontier, men had to be rough-and-ready fighters. They had to be able to defend themselves, not only against hostile Indians, but sometimes even against each other. Beckwourth was always able to protect himself.

"After Beckwourth returned to St. Louis from one job on the frontier, the man he worked for asked him to accept another tough assignment. This job would take him back into the wilderness. Beckwourth agreed, and it was fourteen years before he got back to St. Louis. Every one of those fourteen years had its share of danger and adventure. They were all spent in the wilds among Indians and frontiersmen.

"For a time, Beckwourth lived among the Crow Indians. He went off with the braves to fight the neighboring tribes. He was an outstanding fighter, and was respected by all of the Crow Indians. Beckwourth was even adopted by an Indian family as their son. His Indian 'father' went out in search of the finest unmarried women of the tribe so Beckwourth could pick one to be his wife. It was at this place in the book that Mr. Stokes told me to put it away."

"I can see what you mean when you said it's an interesting book," said Robert. "When you finish it, let me know. I would like to check that book out of the library, too."

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Yes, James Beckwourth did do the things Danny said, and many more. Beckwourth was in his sixties when the United States government asked him to return to the Crow Indians. At that time Crow Indians were on the warpath, and the government hoped Beckwourth could talk them into being more peaceful. James Beckwourth was well received by the Crows. The Indians listened to Beckwourth but did not stop fighting. This was Beckwourth's last opportunity to serve his country. Soon afterward, he became ill, and died among his Indian friends.

James Beckwourth was important in California history. In 1851, he discovered a pass through the mountains to reach northern California. In 1852, he built the first house in the Sierra Valley, and set up a trading post. The pass and a small town in the northern part of California still carry his name.

James Beckwourth served his country well. The many outstanding things that he did in helping open up the way to the West are now a part of United States history.

ACTIVITY 1

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

Copy the questions below and answer them on your paper.

1. Name three of the jobs James Beckwourth had as a frontiersman.
2. Why was it helpful for James Beckwourth to be able to speak some of the Indian languages?
3. Why did the men on the frontier have to be rough-and-ready fighters?
4. Which group of Indians did James Beckwourth live with for awhile?
5. What did the government ask James Beckwourth to do when he was in his sixties?
6. What state has a small town named after James Beckwourth?

CHAPTER REVIEW DISCUSSION

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. What are some examples of modern day pioneers?
2. In what ways are modern pioneers like the early pioneers?
3. What kind of man did the pioneeer admire? What kind of man do we admire today?
4. We have laws today that limit the number of animals and fish sportsmen can hunt or catch. Do you think such laws are good? Explain your answer.
5. James Beckwourth, a Negro; Sacajawea, an Indian; and many Mexicans had an important part in "winning the West." Why is it important for people to know this?

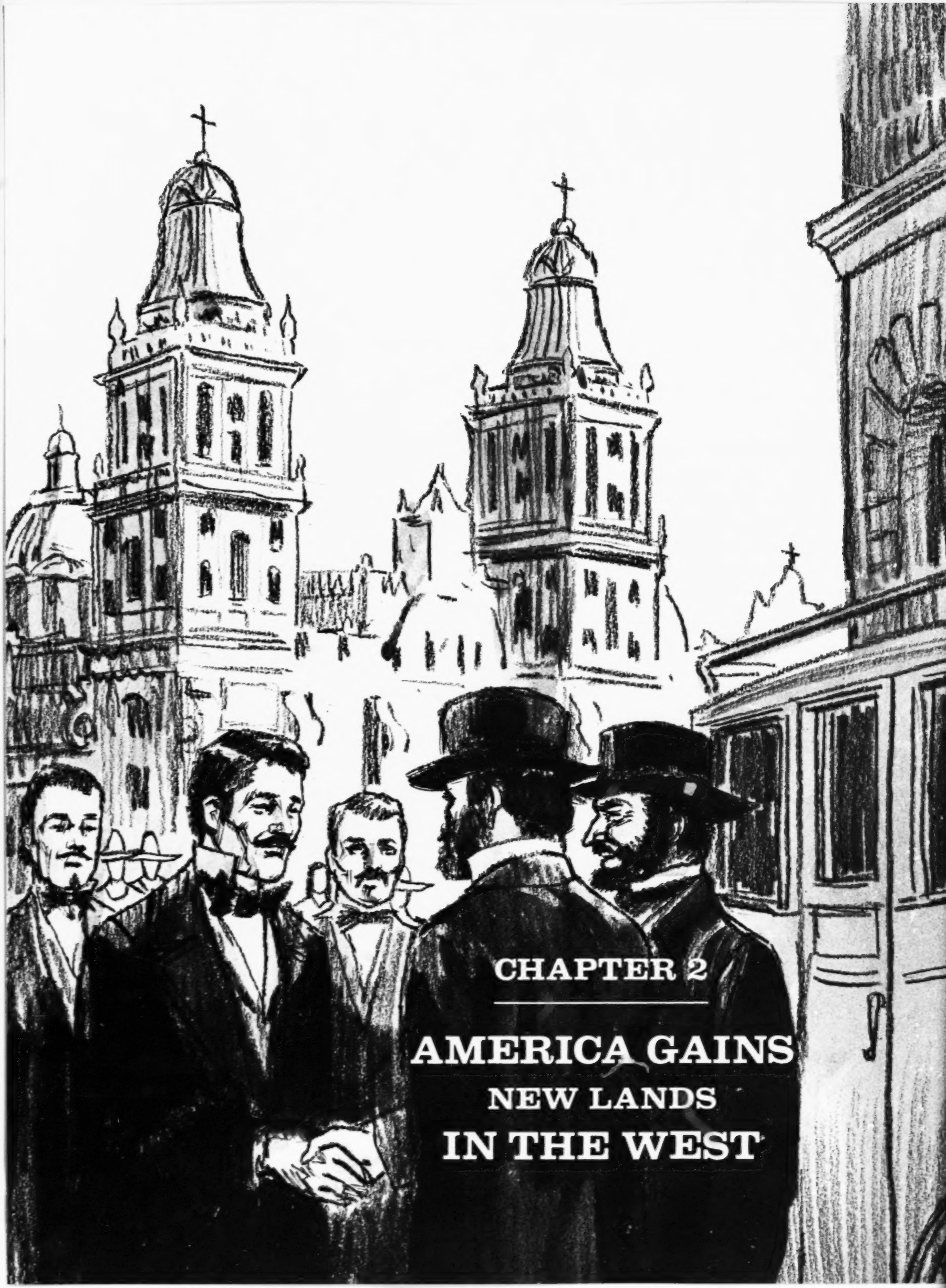
PETE AND BOB: BEING INDEPENDENT

The pioneer did not have most of the things we have today, but he did not have to worry about smog and traffic and many other present-day problems.

Pete says: "Oh, for the good old days. Sure, we have some things that make life easier today, but the pioneer was as free as a bird. I wish I had lived in those days."

Bob says: "You can have the good old days. I would miss television, movies, and school too much. I'm glad I live now and not then."

What do you think? Do you agree with Pete or Bob? Why?



CHAPTER 2

AMERICA GAINS NEW LANDS IN THE WEST

SUMMARY READING

VOCABULARY

Watch for these words in today's reading. They are underlined in the story. Try to understand how these underlined words are used in the story.

1. independent
2. develop
3. boundary
4. acquired

Have you ever had a big argument with someone and later made friends with him? Do you think countries can do the same thing? You will find out about this in today's reading.

WHY DID MEXICO WELCOME AMERICANS?

Americans were interested in all the land to the west. There was rich soil there and a chance for a new life. Texas lay to the west. At first, Texas had belonged to Spain, but in the 1820's Mexico owned Texas. Because so few people lived there, Mexico said, "We want Americans to come to Texas." Many Americans rushed in when they heard this.Many of the American settlers were slave-owners from southern states.

WHY DID MEXICO CHANGE ITS MIND?

In 1829, the Mexican government passed a law that said there would be no more slavery in Mexican territory. By 1830, there were over twelve thousand Americans in Texas. The Mexican government felt there were enough Americans in Texas, so they said, "We do not want any more Americans to come to Texas." This made Americans in Texas angry.

In 1836 the Americans in Texas answered, "We do not want to be under the rule of Mexico." Then, they went on to say, "Texas is not part of Mexico any more. It is independent.

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE ALAMO AND SAN JACINTO?

Mexico, of course, was not willing to give up Texas. A Mexican army defeated the Texans at the famous Battle of the Alamo. The Texans battled to the last man there. In April of 1836, a Texas army led by Sam Houston defeated the Mexican army at San Jacinto. General Santa Ana was captured, and was forced to give Texas its independence. Texas became an independent country called the Lone Star Republic.

WHAT CAUSED THE WAR BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO?

Texas wanted to become a part of the United States. In 1845, the United States made Texas a state. This made Mexico angry because Mexico still felt that Texas belonged to Mexico. The United States and Mexico did not agree on the southern boundary of Texas. This was the boundary separating Texas from Mexico. The United States claimed the southern boundary of Texas was the Rio Grande. Mexico said that the Rio Grande was part of her country and that the Neuces River was the boundary. Arguments over the boundary that separated Texas from Mexico led to war in 1846.

HOW DID THE WAR END?

The Mexican War ended in 1848. The United States won the war. Look at the map on page 17. You can see the large amount of land that the United States gained. The United States paid Mexico fifteen million dollars for the land she gained after the war. Few people from Mexico were living there. Some people feel that the United States did not do the right thing in taking

this land; others believe that it was right. In any case, it gave many people a chance to develop the land; and before that time, the land had not been developed.

There is no point now in arguing who was right. All of this happened more than one hundred years ago. What is important is that, for a long time now, Mexico and the United States have learned to live at peace with each other. Each country likes to think of itself as working toward being a better neighbor. Many reminders of the Mexican way of life can still be seen in the land acquired by the United States.

HOW DID WE GET OREGON?

In the 1840's, some Americans traveled to Texas. At the same time, other Americans were taking a different trail by covered wagon. This other trail was longer and much more dangerous. The trail led to the Oregon country, a rich, beautiful land. Along with Americans, English fur traders came to Oregon. At first, both England and the United States agreed to own and rule all of the Oregon territory together. Then, in 1846 the United States and England agreed to separate the land into two parts. Through this agreement, the United States gained a new land which now makes up the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. This is an example of how two nations made an agreement about land without going to war.

By 1850 the United States had gained many new lands in the West.

ACTIVITY 1

VOCABULARY

Many of the words below were underlined in the story. Copy each word and match it with the meaning it has in this story. Then, write the meaning next to the word.

1. independent	a. to improve
2. develop	b. to get
3. boundary	c. not to be a part of another country
4. acquire	d. that which separates one country from another

ACTIVITY 2

READING FOR MAIN IDEAS

Under each topic are two sentences. Copy the one sentence that is correct for each section.

1. Americans in Texas
   a. Many Americans moved to Texas because of the chance for a new life.
   b. Very few Americans went to Texas because the soil was so poor.
2. No More Americans
   a. No Americans went to Texas after 1829 because they couldn't have slaves.
   b. In 1830, the Mexican government said they did not want any more Americans to come to Texas.
3. Alamo and San Jacinto
   a. The Mexican army defeated the Texans at the Alamo and San Jacinto.
   b. The Texans gained their independence after their victory at San Jacinto.
4. The End of the War
   a. The United States gained a lot of land from the Mexican War.
   b. The United States did not take any land from Mexico after winning the war.
5. On to Oregon
   a. Oregon became part of the United States after a long and bloody war with England.
   b. The United States was able to gain Oregon by a peaceful agreement with England.

ACTIVITY 3

WHO SAID IT?

Write American if you think an American might have made the statement.
Write Mexican if you think a Mexican might have made the statement.
Write both if you think either a Mexican or an American might have made the statement.

1. "Just a minute, too many of you are coming to Texas."
2. "We do not want to give up Texas."
3. "We won the Battle of the Alamo."
4. "We won the Battle of San Jacinto."
5. "We claim the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of Texas."
6. "You cannot have any more slaves here."
7. "The Neuces River is the southern boundary of Texas."
8. "We can develop the land."
9. "I think of you as a good neighbor now."
10. "I don't care what you say—Texas belongs to us."

Enrichment 1: MAP OF LAND ACQUIRED BY U.S. AFTER WAR WITH MEXICO

MAP A

ACTIVITY 1

MAP STUDY

Trace Map A above. Then on your tracing paper color or shade the land the United States received in the Mexican Cession in 1848. Then on a piece of notebook paper, answer the following questions. You may look at Map B for the answers.

1. Which four complete states are in the land gained in the Mexican Cession?
2. Parts of which three states are also in this land?

WYOMING
NEVADA
UTAH
COLORADO
MEXICAN CESSION, 1848
CALIFORNIA
ARIZONA
NEW
MEXICO

MAP B

Enrichment 2: TOM MEETS SAM HOUSTON

Tom usually slept or daydreamed in class. But today he was wide awake. Mr. Weaver, his history teacher, was telling an exciting story to the class. It was about Sam Houston.

SAM HOUSTON LEADS THE TEXANS

"And so, things looked pretty bad for the Texans after the Battle of the Alamo in 1836. There were about one hundred and eighty men at the Alamo, and every one of them was killed. There were about eight hundred Texans left who were willing to carry on the fight. They chose Sam Houston as their leader. Sam never was one to quit a fight, but he took his men and retreated. His men complained about this. They did not know that Houston was just getting them into a better position."

Here the teacher took a breath, and then continued. Tom was now listening to every word.

HOUSTON IS WOUNDED

"When they finally got the order to start fighting, Sam himself was in the middle of it. Twice, his horse was shot right out from under him. He jumped on a third horse. During the battle, a bullet hitting his ankle knocked him out of the fighting. This was not the first time in his life that Houston had been hurt. When he had fought some Indians years before, an arrow had ripped into his leg. That time, people thought he was a goner, but they did not figure on the toughness of Sam Houston. And so now, Sam just took the pain as he had done years before."

TEXAS WAS INDEPENDENT

"The battle ended in a victory for the Texans. Sam Houston was happy they had won and that Texas was independent. Texas was going to become a separate country. The people wanted Texas to become a part of the United States, but that would have to wait for almost ten more years."

Here, Mr. Weaver took another deep breath, and said, "Now, this is the part I want you to think about."

TOM GETS READY TO SLEEP

Here, Tom got ready to fall asleep. Whenever Mr. Weaver said, "This is important," or, "I want you to think," Tom became bored. This time, however, Tom listened long enough to get interested again.

"It is one thing to be a good military leader, but Sam Houston was more than that. He went on to be the first president of Texas. When Texas became a part of the United States, he served as the senator from Texas and as governor of Texas for many years. People agreed he did a good job. Now then, what do you know about Houston that made him such a good leader? Remember, he was a good leader in peace and a good leader in war. The people of Texas think he was one of the greatest leaders they ever had."

Tom raised his hand. He had read a book about Houston, and he thought he knew a right answer. The teacher looked in Tom's direction.

Tom got ready to answer, but Mr. Weaver said, "Yes, Mary." Mary sat right behind Tom. Tom was angry, but he listened to what Mary had to say.

SAM HOUSTON'S FAMILY

"Well, Sam Houston had a strong family background. His people before him lived in Scotland and in Ireland. They fought very hard for religious freedom. His mother told him stories about his people in Scotland and Ireland. They fought very hard for religious freedom. This made him proud. Because he was proud of himself, he worked hard to become a leader."

SAM HOUSTON'S EARLY INDIAN LIFE

"That's one answer," said Mr. Weaver. Tom's hand kept waving. "Yes, Tom."

Tom said, "When Sam was sixteen, he got tired of working on a farm and in a store. He

found an Indian friend, a Cherokee, who took a liking to him. Then, Sam stayed with the Indians —for more than three years. An Indian chief adopted him. Sam did more than just live with the Indians. He really became an Indian himself, thinking of his Indian step-brothers as real brothers. He learned the Indian language and Indian customs. He often joined in the circle around the Indian campfire, and listened to the wise, old men of the tribe tell wonderful Indian stories. At heart, he was an Indian. He was always proud to be called by his Indian name, which was Raven. He was always interested in helping the Indians, too. Years later, people said he had dignity. It was a dignity he had learned from the Indians. All the people liked him and respected him because of this dignity."

WHO IS RIGHT?

When Tom finished, the teacher asked the class, "Who is right, Mary or Tom?"

Some of the class members said that Mary was right. Some said Tom.

"Well, then," said Mr. Weaver, "do you think that both of them may be right?"

The class thought about this; then, Joe spoke out: "I think they are both right. I am a Mexican-American. I am very proud of the stories my mother tells me about how hard my people have struggled to get their rights. I am proud to be an American, too."

The teacher smiled. "Well, maybe we learned something today."

Tom agreed that he had. Then, before he could settle down to his daydreams, the bell rang. He thought, "Gosh, this period went fast."

ACTIVITY 1

FILL ME IN

Copy the following paragraph and fill in the missing words.

Sam Houston was the first _____ of Texas. He proved to be a good _____ in peace and war. His people had lived in _____ and _____. Sam had lived among the _____ and had learned a great deal from them. He had dignity, and this made people _____ him.

ACTIVITY 2

ARE YOU A LEADER?

Copy the following chart on your paper. On the left side are some descriptions of a good leader. Put an X under the name Sam Houston for each of the things that describe him. Put an X under the word Myself for each of the things that you think describe you. See how you compare with Sam Houston. Do you have the qualities of a good leader, too?

	Sam Houston	Myself
1. Interested in other people		
2. Proud of family		
3. Brave		
4. Eager to learn new things		
5. Willing to respect the rights of other people		

Enrichment 3: INHERITANCE FROM SPAIN AND MEXICO

Jack, and his friend Manuel, were walking home from school in Los Angeles.

"Say, Manuel," said Jack, "let's meet in the patio of the Plaza Hotel before the dance. Remember, the hotel's on the corner of La Cienega and La Tijera."

"You know, what you just said sounds funny, coming from you," remarked Manuel.

"What do you mean, Manuel?"

"Well, many of the words you used are Spanish."

THOSE SPANISH WORDS

"Now that I think of it, you're right," said Jack. "Your name, *patio, plaza, La Cienega,* and *La Tijera* are all Spanish words. How about that!"

"Well, it's not too surprising when you stop to think that California belonged to Spain or Mexico for over 300 years, Jack."

"Wow, that's a long time."

"Yes, I know. The first Spanish explorers came into this area in the 1500's," said Manuel. "They took it all for Spain. It became a Spanish colony."

"You know, I didn't know that the Spanish were here that early, Manuel. Why, that was about 100 years before the Pilgrims landed."

"That's right! The area later became a part of Mexico. You see, Mexico was a Spanish colony, and in 1820 it broke away from Spain, just like we did from England, in 1776," said Manuel.

"Well, now I understand why you see so many Spanish or Mexican things around," remarked Jack.

REMINDERS OF SPAIN AND MEXICO

"Yes, and it's not only in street names, Jack. We are still reminded of this in different types of buildings, music, and handcrafts. Why, in the desert, people are still building houses of adobe because they are cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter."

"So that's why the missions were made of adobe bricks!" said Jack.

"That's right, and it was also cheaper to build with adobe. In California, the priests built 21 missions, and there are many more in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. They were built to bring the Catholic religion and the Spanish way of life to the Indians."

"Dad said that many of our cities today have grown up where the missions were started," said Jack. "You know, cities like San Diego, Santa Barbara, and San Francisco."

TOWNS AND BUSINESS

"He's right, Jack. But not all towns at that time grew up that way. One summer when we were driving up through the state, we ran across several towns that were started by families or groups of people who came from Spain or Mexico. They gave these towns names like *Los Gatos* —'The Cats,' and *Las Pulgas*—'The Fleas.' Some of the people who settled in these towns started some of our most important businesses."

"Well, I know they started the cattle business," said Jack. "That's why there are many Spanish words used in the cattle business. For example, words like *rodeo, lariat,* and *chaps.*"

"Many of the words that are used in the mining industry are Spanish, too, Jack. For example, *bonanza, arroyo,* and *barranca.* Mining was a big business with the Mexicans."

"That's interesting, Manuel."

"Another interesting thing, Jack. Mexico also did a lot of trading with the Far East; in fact, so much that, at one time, China used only Mexican gold in their business affairs."

"You know, sometimes we forget how much the Mexicans had done here before the Americans came," said Jack.

A GREAT INHERITANCE

"I know what you mean, Jack. They really gave this area its beginning. We've inherited a great deal from them."

"Did you know that when California became a state, the leaders just kept many of the laws that the Mexicans had?" asked Jack. "Especially laws about water, mining, and boundary rights."

"No, I didn't know that, Jack. Where did you learn that?"

"From a friend of my father," answered Jack. "He's a lawyer. He told my dad that even the first constitution of California was written in Spanish and English."

"Wow, it's getting late," said Manuel. "If we don't hurry, we'll be late getting to the Plaza Hotel. See you at the corner of 'the swamp' and 'the scissors'."

"'The swamp' and 'the scissors'? What's that?"

"Well, Jack, in Spanish, *La Cienega* means 'the swamp', and *La Tijera* means 'the scissors'."

ACTIVITY 1

KNOWING THE FACTS

Copy each statement on your paper, and then complete it with the correct answer.

1. Before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, in 1620.
   a. Mexico broke away from Spain and became an independent nation.
   b. California was a Spanish colony.
2. After Mexico became independent of Spain
   a. California became part of the United States.
   b. California became part of Mexico.
3. Looking at the style of buildings and of the missions in California
   a. reminds us that California belonged to Spain and Mexico for over 300 years.
   b. shows us that the Pilgrims were the first people to settle in this area.
4. Missions were built in Arizona, New Mexico, and
   a. Virginia.
   b. California.
5. San Diego and San Francisco are examples of California cities which
   a. grew up in places where missions had been started.
   b. were started before the 1500's.
6. Some words that we use today, such as *patio,* and *rodeo,* are really
   a. Spanish words.
   b. Indian words.
7. When California became a state
   a. the first constitution was written in Spanish and English.
   b. all the missions were torn down.

ACTIVITY 2

JUST FOR FUN

Below are some Spanish words. Try to match the words with their meanings. Number from 1 to 5 on your paper. Copy each word with its meaning beside it.

1. casa	a. book
2. amigo	b. money
3. libro	c. house
4. escuela	d. school
5. dinero	e. friend

CHAPTER REVIEW DISCUSSION

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Do you respect a person who respects you? Explain why.
2. Why do people want to be independent?
3. Some pupils in California speak only Spanish. Should the law require the state to print books in Spanish for them?

PETE AND BOB: BEING AN AMERICAN

Should Americans think of themselves as Americans and nothing else? Can they be good Americans and still be proud of ancestors who had a different way of life?

Pete says: "I believe I am a good American. I'm proud of America and nothing else. I cannot be a good American and still be proud of the customs of my ancestors. After all, they lived in another country."

Bob says: "I believe I am a good American. I am proud to be an American. I am also proud of the way of life of my ancestors. I can be proud of both and still be a good American."

What do you think? Do you agree with Pete or Bob? Why?

CHAPTER 3

CALIFORNIA'S EARLY HISTORY

SUMMARY READING

VOCABULARY

Watch for these words in today's reading. They are underlined in the story. Try to understand how these underlined words are used in the story.

1. port
2. founded
3. missions
4. pueblos
5. treaty

Have you looked at pictures of yourself that were taken when you were much younger? Did you notice how different you looked? We are going to take a look at California when it was very young. Notice how different early California "looks."

WHAT KINDS OF PEOPLE LIVED IN EARLY CALIFORNIA?

California broke away from Mexico in 1846. However, the history of California goes back many years before that. Let us take a minute now to find out a little about this early California history. It is an interesting story.

California's first people were Indians. The Indians of California are among the last known group of Indians of North America. They did not move from one place to another as much as other North American Indians. They did little hunting for big game animals. Small game animals were hunted, though. The Indians ate a good deal of vegetables and fish. The California Indians seldom went on the warpath. They were people who enjoyed a peaceful way of life.

WHY WERE THE SPANIARDS INTERESTED IN CALIFORNIA?

The next people to live in California were Spanish. When the Spaniards first came to California, in 1542, they thought they had reached an island. They named the area California. Spain was interested in starting a settlement on the coast of California in 1602. This settlement would serve as a port to get fresh supplies for Spanish ships trading in Asia. However, these plans failed to take place. Not much was done to start settlements before 1769.

The Spanish priests started, or founded, the first mission in California in 1769. This was the San Diego Mission. In time, they founded twenty other missions. The missions were placed where the Spanish priests taught the Indians about the European way of life. The priests taught the Indians about the Christian religion. They also taught the Indians many things about farming. The Indians learned how to take care of cattle and horses, and how to build and make useful things.

Many times pueblos, or towns grew up around the missions. Some of the pueblos grew into large cities. For example, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Barbara. Some pueblos did not start around missions. They were started by people from Spain and Mexico. The city of Los Angeles was started this way in 1781.

MEXICO REVOLTS

Spain owned California until 1822. During that time, Mexico also belonged to Spain. The Mexicans wanted to be independent and free, however, and in 1822 Mexico broke away from Spain. When that happened, California became a territory of Mexico. Most of the people who had settled in California had always felt far away from Spain, and they felt far away from the main part of Mexico, too. Many of the Spaniards and Mexicans in California thought of themselves only as Californians.

WHY DID PEOPLE COME TO CALIFORNIA?

Even before gold was discovered in 1848, many people from the United States came to California. They came for different reasons. At first, they came in ships to trade with the Californians. Jed Smith, a hunter and trapper, found a way through the desert and mountains to California in 1826. Soon, other trappers and traders followed him to California. When these men returned to the East, they told stories that made other people want to come. "California is a land of rich soil and beautiful weather," they said. Soon more Americans began the dangerous trip to California.

In time, the Americans who had settled in California, and some Californians wanted to be independent from Mexico. To get their independence, they broke away from Mexico in 1846. This was called the Bear Flag Revolt. It was called the Bear Flag Revolt because the flag the Californians used had a bear on it. This flag is still California's state flag. As it turned out, the United States had already gone to war with Mexico when the Bear Flag Revolt began. The United States took control of California in 1846 during the war with Mexico. When the peace treaty was signed between the United States and Mexico in 1848, California became a territory of the United States.

At that time, there were not many people in California. Then, in 1848, gold was discovered in northern California at a saw mill owned by John Sutter. The news of the discovery spread, and people rushed to California by the thousands. They hoped to find gold and get rich. Although many of them failed to find gold, some remained, because they found rich soil and beautiful weather for farming.

ACTIVITY 1

VOCABULARY

The words below were underlined in the story. Copy each word and match it with the meaning it has in this story. Then, write the meaning next to the word.

1. port	a. to start
2. founded	b. a place where ships pick up supplies
3. missions	c. an agreement by two nations
4. pueblos	d. places where the Indians were taught many things by Spanish priests
5. treaty	e. small towns

ACTIVITY 2

READING FOR THE MAIN IDEAS

Under each topic, are two sentences. Copy the one sentence that is correct for each part of the story.

1. Indians of Early California
   a. The California Indians were warlike and enjoyed fighting and hunting.
   b. The California Indians were peaceful and seldom went on the warpath.

2. Spaniards in California
   a. The Spaniards were interested in California, and set up missions.
   b. The Spaniards were not interested in California because it was too far from Spain.
3. Mexico revolts
   a. Mexico broke away from Spain because she wanted to be free and independent.
   b. Mexico broke away from Spain because Spain did not keep her promise to give Mexico its independence.
4. Other People in California
   a. People from the United States were forced by the government to go to California in 1822.
   b. People came to California to make a better life for themselves.

ACTIVITY 3

WHO SAID IT?

If you had lived in early California and listened carefully, you might have heard the following statements. Can you match what might have been said with who might have said it? List the five people below on your paper. Then, read what was said, and write the statement next to the early Californian who might have said it.

1. A young Indian boy	a. "I am here trying to teach the Indians about God."
2. An early Spanish explorer	b. "I came here looking for gold, but now I think I'll stay and farm this rich land."
3. A Spanish priest	c. "My people were the very first ones here."
4. An American trapper	d. "I was one of the first Americans in California. It is a nice place, but I don't want to stay—too many people here now."
5. A miner	e. "When I arrived, there were only Indians here."

Enrichment 1: RAY DISCOVERS FATHER SERRA

"Oh, no. It's too far to walk, Joe." Ray had a tired look on his face. "Why do I have to walk to the store? It's a long walk, and my feet are killing me."

Ray's older brother, Joe, looked at Ray. He put down the book he had been reading. "You know, Ray, I have just been reading about Father Serra and the California missions."

"Oh, no," Ray moaned. "Do I have to hear about the good old days again? All I said was that my feet are killing me."

Joe gave Ray a strange look.

"All right, Joe. All right. Tell me about this Father Serra. What did he do? Walk a mile to get to church?"

"Nope. He walked thousands of miles," Joe answered.

"Are you kidding? No one walks thousands of miles. Who was this Father Serra?" Now, Ray was getting interested. Besides, he thought, if he kept Joe talking, maybe he would not have to walk to the store.

FATHER SERRA GOES TO THE NEW WORLD

"Father Serra," Joe began, "played an important part in California history. He was a professor (teacher) in Spain back in the 1700's. He could have led a pretty easy life there. Instead, he decided to go to the New World, to teach the Indians to be Christians. In 1749, he made plans to go to Mexico, which belonged to Spain. When his ship got to Mexico, do you know what he did? He said he would walk from the place where the boat landed all the way to Mexico City. That walk was hundreds of miles. Well, he was bitten by a snake on that walk. The wound never did heal right, and for the rest of his life he had trouble with his leg. You might think he would take it easy on the walking after that, wouldn't you? Not Father Serra."

FATHER SERRA'S DREAM

"Father Serra was interested in making the Indians Christians, so he stayed in Mexico. That was in the 1750's. Remember, at that time, Spain owned California, too. Spain never paid much attention to California, though. Then, something happened to change this. Russia became interested in California, too; so Spain sent people to California to keep the Russians out.

"Father Serra saw this as a great chance to set up missions. These missions would be used to make Christians out of the Indians in California. So off he went. He started the first mission in 1769, in San Diego. Since he was fifty-six years old then, you might figure it was time for him to rest—but not Father Serra. During the next fifteen years, he helped start nine missions. They ranged from San Diego to San Francisco."

FATHER SERRA WALKS

Ray interrupted Joe. "What has this got to do with me walking to the store?"

"Not so fast," Joe answered, "Do you know how Father Serra got from one of those missions to another? He walked to them—bad leg and all. And he did this as an old man, walking hundreds of miles. By the way, he called the path he took El Camino Real, which means The King's Highway. You still can see the route he took. Some of our highways and freeways use the same route, and there are signs along the way to remind us."

THE INDIANS AND THE MISSIONS

"Father Serra found that the Indians were not very eager to come to the missions at first. But he had a way that won many of them over."

"Did they use missions only to make Christians out of the Indians?" Ray asked.

"No," Joe answered. "Of course, this was one of their main purposes, but the Indians worked in the missions, too. The missions had a good deal of land that the Indians cared for, and many cattle, horses, and sheep. The Indians worked on

the farms, and made many useful things in the mission shops. The Spanish taught the Indians how to build the missions from adobe and plaster. They made red tile for the roofs."

THE MISSIONS TODAY

"In time, twenty-one missions were started in California. Today, you can still visit them. Thousands of people visit them each year because they are such an important part of our history. We owe the start of the California missions to one man—Father Serra. He never was afraid to walk great distances. He walked from mission to mission and never complained." Here Joe paused. "So, how about it, Ray? Are you ready to walk to the store now?"

Ray had to smile at his brother. He had thought he was going to be able to fool Joe, but now he thought that anyone who knew that much history must be too smart to fool. Besides, it had been interesting listening to the story of Father Serra, and the California missions.

"Yes, yes. I'm leaving!" Ray said, walking like an old man with a bad leg.

Joe laughed and went back to his California history book.

ACTIVITY 1

I CAN'T STAND ALONE

Here are the parts of five sentences. The parts on the left side can not stand alone because they have no meaning until something from the right side is added. Can you do this? Copy each sentence part and complete it.

1. Father Serra made missions to	a. many missions in California.
2. El Camino Real was	b. red tile for the roofs of missions.
3. Father Serra started	c. teach the Indians to be Christians.
4. The Indians learned how to make	d. walk many miles to set up missions.
5. Father Serra had to	e. a path in California.

ACTIVITY 2

RIGHT OR WRONG

Answer each of the following questions correctly by writing YES or NO on your paper.

1. Was Father Serra an educated man?
2. Was Spain the only country interested in California?
3. Did the Indians gain anything by coming to the missions?
4. Did Father Serra really walk from mission to mission?

Enrichment 2: THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH

After California became a part of the United States, something very exciting happened. Gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in northern California in 1848. Many thousands of people rushed to California after hearing about the discovery, all hoping to find gold and get rich. People in the East often asked these two questions: What is the best way to get to California? Can I get rich there?

To find the answers to these questions, let's imagine that someone in California was writing a letter in 1849 to a friend in the East. What would the letter say? Let's read it and find out.

San Francisco, California
December 3, 1849

Dear Joe,

You asked me the best way to get to California. Well, take your pick. You can get a ship to take you around the southern tip of South America. This is called Cape Horn. I hear that so many people want to take this route, though, that they are using some pretty old ships. Many of these old ships are unsafe for such a long and rough voyage. A lot of these "floating coffins" start the trip but never finish it.

Well, if that long sea trip idea bothers you, how about this? Take a ship to Panama. From the dock, some mules will take you across the Panama jungle. Then, when you reach the Pacific Ocean, another ship will bring you to San Francisco. There is one little problem with that, too. You might not get out of the jungle alive. It's dangerous; and, besides that, many people coming through the jungle get a disease called malaria. If you get malaria you may die from it.

Of course, you can always go across the country by wagon. You have a few problems that way, too. Be certain you take the right route. Otherwise, you can end up lost in Death Valley or some other place. Some people get lost and die from the heat or cold weather. Be sure to leave Missouri at the right time of the year, too. Plan to leave there in the early spring. Don't ever try to get across the Rockies, or the Sierra Nevada mountains in the winter. A group of people called the Donner Party tried that a few years back. Many of them died.

Well, if you're not discouraged, come on. But let me tell you before you come, mining for gold is very hard work. I know a miner who made $10,000 in one week. Sure, once in a while someone like him finds a big nugget. Most of the time, though, you have to take little bits of gold out of tons of sand and gravel. You travel down dangerous trails and into deep canyons. It takes a tough man. Sometimes you stay soaked in cold water all day. Some men use a small pan, but most of us have long cradles. Either way, it is hard work.

If you do make some money, it doesn't mean you are going to get rich. I paid $3 for an egg today and $2 for an onion. The gamblers and saloons are always trying to get your money. Right now, there is not much a poor guy can do here except mine for gold.

I'll tell you something, though. The soil here is rich. The weather is nice, too. This gold rush won't last, but this land has a future. I'm going to stay. California is going to grow, for sure. Why don't you take a chance? Come on out and join me.

Sincerely yours,
Sam Williams

This is the kind of letter someone living in California might have written to someone in the East. Of course, it would take a long time for the letter to get there.

If you had received this letter in 1849, would you have wanted to go to California?

ACTIVITY 1

MAKE IT RIGHT

Each of the sentences below is wrong. You can make it right by just changing one word. Number from 1 to 5 on your paper, and then write each of the sentences, changing just one word so that it will be a true statement.

1. The trip to California by ship was very safe.
2. Traveling across the Panama jungles was healthy.
3. No people died trying to reach California by land routes.
4. It was easy work mining for gold.
5. Food was cheap in California during the gold rush.

ACTIVITY 2

TAKE YOUR CHOICE

If you had your choice, which of the people below would you rather have been in the Gold Rush days? Write your choice on your paper, and explain the reasons for your choice.

1. a miner
2. a man who sold supplies to the miners
3. a man who took the miners to California
4. a gambler

Enrichment 3: MAP OF CALIFORNIA

ACTIVITY 1

CALIFORNIA'S BIGGEST CITIES IN 1960

Below is a chart of the ten cities in California that had the most people in 1960. After looking at the chart, answer the eight questions on your paper.

Ten Cities in California
With the Most People in 1960

	1960	1950
Fresno	133,929	91,669
Glendale	119,442	95,702
Long Beach	344,168	250,767
Los Angeles	2,479,015	1,970,358
Oakland	367,548	384,575
Pasadena	116,407	104,577
Sacramento	237,712	137,572
San Diego	573,224	334,387
San Francisco	740,316	775,357
San Jose	204,196	95,280

1. Which city in California had the most people in 1960?
2. Which cities had the second and third largest numbers of people in 1960?
3. If you added the number of people in 1960 in the second and third largest cities, would they have more people than the largest city?
4. Which city north of Los Angeles had the most people in 1960?
5. Which city south of Los Angeles had the most people in 1960?
6. Which cities had fewer people in 1960 than in 1950?
7. Which city gained the most people from 1950 to 1960?
8. Which cities had less than 100,000 people in 1950?

CHAPTER REVIEW DISCUSSION

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Imagine that gold was never discovered in California. Would other attractions have brought people to California?
2. What are some of the ways gold is used?
3. Father Serra did not give up. Name some people living today who have shown this same quality.

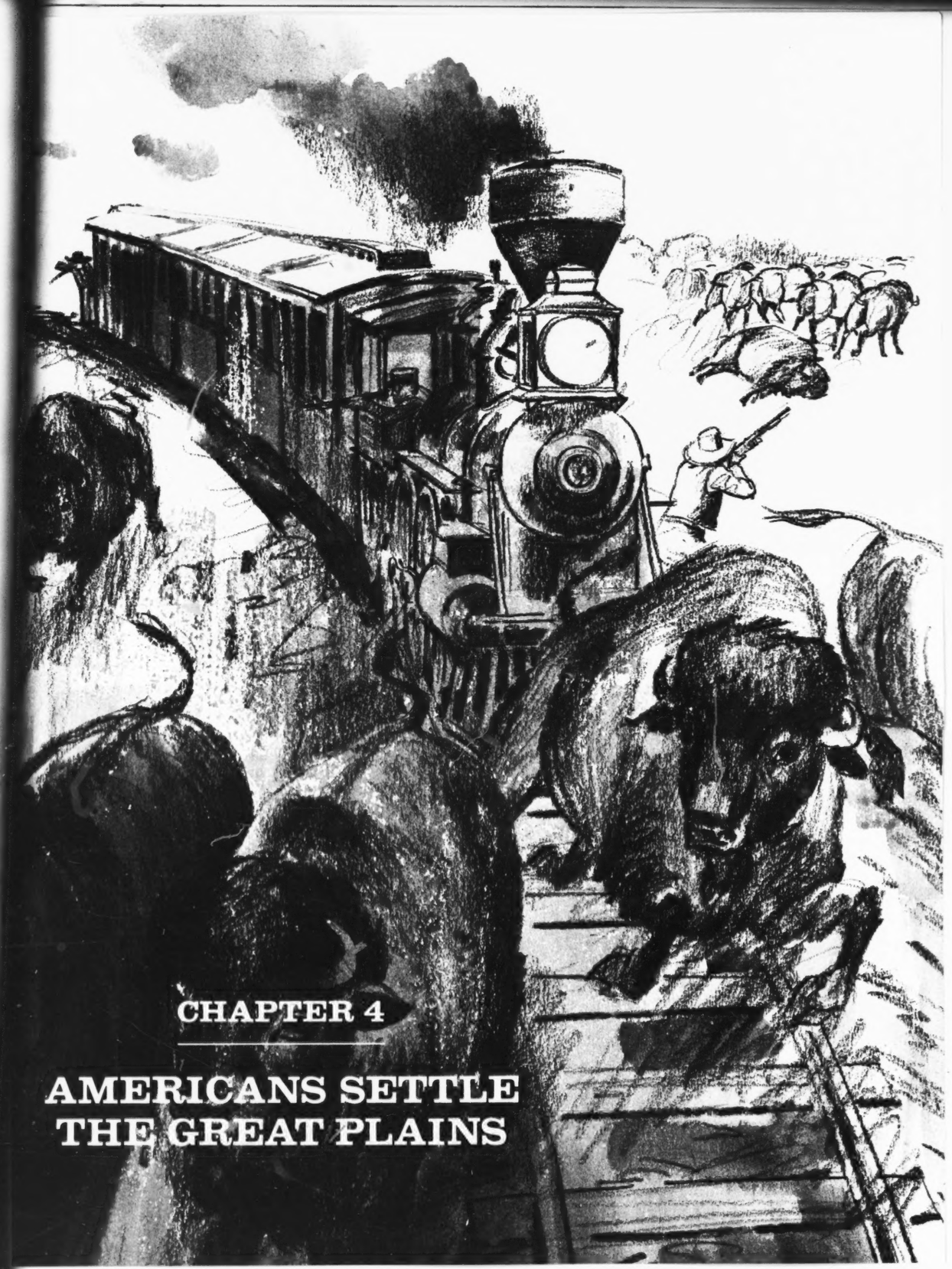
PETE AND BOB: TAKING A CHANCE

Many men who tried to reach California during the gold rush lost their lives. Traveling to California in those days was very dangerous. The men who went to California knew about these dangers, but this did not stop them from going. They wanted to get rich in the gold fields. They were willing to take a chance.

Pete says: "Danger means nothing to me. If I have a chance to get rich, I will face any dangers."

Bob says: "I don't believe in taking chances. People who risk their lives to get rich are foolish."

What do you think? Do you agree with Pete or Bob? Why?



CHAPTER 4

AMERICANS SETTLE THE GREAT PLAINS

SUMMARY READING

VOCABULARY

Watch for these words in today's reading. They are underlined in the story. Try to understand how these underlined words are used in the story.

1. frontier
2. windmills
3. reservations
4. drought

Have you ever promised something to someone and then found out later that you could not keep your promise? You will find that the American government made certain promises to the Indians, too. Later the government found that it could not keep all of the promises.

WHAT LAND STILL WAS NOT SETTLED?

We have read about how our country grew as the settlers kept moving west. As these settlers moved west, the frontier moved west, too, because the frontier is the place where the unsettled land begins. At first, settlers moved as far as the Allegheny Mountains. Then, they moved on, past the Mississippi River all the way to the Rocky Mountains. Much of this land was called the Great Plains. The story of how this land was settled between the 1860's and the 1880's is an exciting one.

WHY WAS THIS LAND UNSETTLED?

The area of the Great Plains was much different from the areas that American settlers were used to on the westward march. The land was dry, and it rained very little. This information was found in the reports that were made to the government by Lewis and Clark and other explorers. These reports also showed that living on the Great Plains would be very difficult. As a result, the area became known as the Great American Desert. At this time the government told the Sioux, Comanches, Apaches, and other Indian tribes that the Great Plains would always be Indian Country.

WHAT HAPPENED ON THE GREAT PLAINS?

During the late 1840's. thousands of American settlers and miners crossed the Great Plains. Some were going to Oregon, and many were going to California after gold was discovered there in 1848. During the 1850's the traffic of Americans continued across the Great Plains. Men from the United States government were busy making treaties with the Indians. Under the treaties some Indians agreed to move. Others gave permission for roads to be built that ran across their lands. Soon afterwards, thousands of Americans traveled over the roads. Plans were also being made to run a railroad across the Great Plains to California.

PIONEERS ON THE PLAINS

At first, most Americans moving West were only interested in crossing the Great Plains. Later, some pioneers began a new life on the Great Plains. There were different kinds of pioneers who made a new life on the Great Plains. There were the miners, the cowboys, the ranchers, and the farmers. These men helped settle the last frontier. The miner wandered into the mountain country looking for gold and silver. His wanderings led him through the lands which now are the states of Nevada, Colorado, and Wyoming. The cowboys drove thousands of cattle across the grasslands of the Plains on their way to the railroad towns. Soon, many Americans were eating the meat from these cattle.

The farmer in the Great Plains faced many different problems. He found it difficult to grow

things there, since much of the land was dry and hard. He faced such enemies as grasshoppers and very dry weather we call a drought. Sometimes he gave up. Sometimes he won out. The farmer dug wells to find water, and used machines called windmills to pump it from the ground. He tore at the hard ground with a steel plow. He brought in better machinery. The farmer put up barbed wire fences to protect his crops. The farmer fought a hard fight. Finally, great fields of wheat showed that he had conquered the land. He had met the Great Plains in battle and he had won.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE INDIAN WHILE ALL THIS WAS GOING ON?

The Indians, as you would expect, were unhappy when the Plains were being settled. Years before, they had been pushed into the Great Plains. They had been told by the United States government that this land would always belong to the Indians, and they had believed it. The government had not dreamed that this land would soon be needed. Now, when the settlers invaded the land that had been promised to them, the Indians went on the warpath. After years of fighting, the Indians had to give up. The Indians finally had to agree to move to areas the government had set up for them called reservations. Forcing the Indians on reservations is one of the saddest stories in American history.

TIMES CHANGE

Until the 1880's the miner, the cowboy, the rancher, and the farmer all were part of a great frontier. Each did things in his own way. In time, however, all of this changed. As more people moved into what was once the frontier, people could not do as they pleased. Law and order was needed. The pioneers who helped open up the way to the West played an important role in the growth of the country.

ACTIVITY 1

VOCABULARY

Many of the words below were underlined in the story. Copy each word and match it with the meaning it has in this story. Then, write the meaning next to the word.

1. frontier	a. areas set up by the government where Indians live.
2. windmills	b. no rain for a long time
3. reservations	c. where the start of unsettled land begins
4. drought	d. a machine used to pump water from the ground

ACTIVITY 2

CHECKING THE FACTS

Copy the first part of each sentence and then write the correct answer to complete it.

1. The last land to be settled was
   a. the land between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains.
   b. California and Oregon.
2. One reason the Great Plains were unsettled was because
   a. living conditions there were very difficult.
   b. the Indians wanted too much money for the land.
3. Most Americans crossed the Great Plains in the 1840's
   a. on their way to Oregon and California.
   b. on their way to railroad towns in the West.
4. The main hardships faced by the farmers on the Great Plains were
   a. too much water and floods
   b. hard, dry land and little water.
5. As the Great Plains were settled, the Indians
   a. fought the settlers.
   b. asked to be taken to the reservations.
6. The farmers in the Great Plains
   a. got water for their crops by using the windmill.
   b. were not able to grow crops because the land was too dry.

ACTIVITY 3

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Some people thought the Great Plains were useless, but they were wrong. Can you think of some areas in California which are thought to be useless today? Do you think they could become useful?
2. For what purposes do we now use the sea? Can you think of some ways that man might use the sea in the future?

Enrichment 1: THE AMERICAN COWBOYS

The life of American cowboys today is not as rough as it was in the 1800's. For example, the early cowboys suffered many hardships on long cattle drives. Choking dust storms, sleeping outside in all types of weather, and Indian raids helped make life rugged and dangerous. Often it was hard to find a steady job as a cowboy and the pay was very low. These were only some of the hardships in the life of the early cowboy.

Motion picture films sometimes give a different picture of the early West and the American cowboy. They picture the early cowboy as a hero whose life was full of glamour. These films, however, only show one type of cowboy.

Let's read a report about the real life of the early American cowboys who helped our country grow strong. This report was given in a history class that was studying about the early West.

FIRST COWBOYS

History books about the early West tell us that men who became cowboys came from many different groups. The Spanish vaqueros (cowmen) were the new world's first cowboys. The vaqueros first came to Mexico from Spain. They arrived with the first cattle herds being sent to the New World. Some people in Spain were given large areas of land in New Mexico and California. They came to these ranches with large herds of cattle. The vaqueros were brought along to take care of the cattle.

The vaquero in Mexico and California did not face all of the same problems as the American cowboy. For example, the early vaqueros did not have to drive their herds of cattle long distances to the market or to the railroad. Later, however, many vaqueros did join the American cowboys in the cattle drives along the famous trails of Texas. The American cowboys learned and used many of the vaqueros' words, such as *chaps, poncho, corral, rodeo,* and *lariat.*

AMERICAN COWBOYS

Many books have been written about the cowboys. What many people don't know, though, is that while most of the cowboys were white, there were many Negro cowboys, too. Negro cowboys found that life for them was much different in the West than it was in other places. For the most part, a man's ability to do a job was more important than his race or color.

THE LONG DRIVE

All of the cowboys worked very hard. The toughest part of all was getting the cattle to market. The cowboys faced many dangers on the trail. The stampede was one danger that was always present. Cattle might stampede for many different reasons. All it took was a loud noise, or being frightened by wild animals. Many times, the cowboys didn't know what had caused a stampede.

Once a stampede was started, though, there was very little the cowboys could do to slow the cattle down. They had to ride along with the herd until they reached the leader. Then, the cowboys would lead the cattle to run around and around in a circle, and try to slow them down. Sometimes, both men and cattle were killed during stampedes.

As we look back at the life of the cowboys, we can see the important role they played in our history. Because they were willing to do a difficult job and face many dangers, people living in the cities had plenty of fresh meat to eat. The cowboys didn't only help feed our nation. They also helped develop the western part of the United States.

The Long Drive

ACTIVITY 1

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Write each of the following statements on your paper, and fill in the missing words.

1. The early cowboys had to suffer many hardships on the long _____ drives.
2. The Spanish vaquero was the New World's first _____.
3. Negro cowboys found that life for the Negro was different in the _____ than it was in other parts of America.
4. The toughest part of the cowboy's job was getting the cattle to _____.
5. The stampede was one _____ that was always present.
6. One important job the cowboys did was to help feed our _____.
7. Early American cowboys helped to develop the _____ part of our country.

ACTIVITY 2

HELP FOR THE COWBOY

After reading the story, "The American Cowboys," make a list of things that we have and use today that would have made the life of the early cowboys easier.

ACTIVITY 3

MAKE A CHOICE

Write a short paragraph telling why you would or would not have liked to be an early cowboy.

Enrichment 2: THE COWBOYS MEET

Cast:

Narrator
TV Clem
Cowboy Bob
TV Pete
Cowboy Slim
TV Bill
Cowboy Tex

NARRATOR: What would happen if some real cowboys of the old days met some television cowboys? We know this never could happen. Never? Well, *never*, unless we use our imagination. Let's do that right now. Let's see what happens when some real cowboys meet some television cowboys. Now, the real cowboys that we are talking about are the cowboys who drove great herds of cattle out of Texas. They drove the cattle northward to railroad centers. They did this from the 1860's to the 1880's. Let's take these hearty cowboys out of *their* time and put them in the present with a gang of today's cowboys at a television studio. What would the cowboys say to each other? Well, let's find out.

TV CLEM: Say, look at those guys walking this way. Get a load of their outfits. Hey! What are you guys wearing, anyway?

COWBOY BOB: Wise guy, huh? What do you mean what are *we* wearing? I'm wearing my spurs, my Mexican hat, my lariat, my holster, my boots. It's YOU guys I'm wondering about. I've never seen such fancy outfits in my life.

TV PETE: Well, I guess we have about what you have. We've just got them prettied up a bit. (pause) Hey! Just watch it, there! Don't get any dust on me. How come you guys don't look clean and pretty, like us?

COWBOY SLIM: Well, you'd be kinda dirty, too, doing what we do. You know, we drive cattle from Texas to the railroad towns. Me—I'm a drag rider. My job's at the back—pushing the herd of cattle. My job's eatin' dust.

TV BILL: Well, you'd never make a hit on TV. Pardon me, while I twirl my gun.

COWBOY TEX: Is your gun loaded?

TV BILL: Only with blanks. Do you have real bullets in your gun?

COWBOY TEX: You bet I do. We have to be ready for trouble if it comes our way.

TV CLEM: Tell me more about your job.

COWBOY BOB: Well, we drive cattle hundreds and hundreds of miles across the Great Plains. We move 'em from Texas to railroad towns. Sometimes, we move 'em as far as a thousand miles.

COWBOY SLIM: It's no easy job, keeping a herd of hundreds—maybe thousands—of cattle together. It's what we call the long drive.

COWBOY TEX: The cattle feed right off the grassland on the way, too.

TV PETE: You ever get into any tough spots? Once I got sunburned from the television lights.

COWBOY BOB: Tough spots? Well—sometimes we have trouble with Indians. What really bothers us most are stampedes.

TV BILL: Stampedes? Is that the name of a new saloon?

COWBOY BOB: No, no! You know—when the cattle get scared and start running in all directions. Longhorns stampede more than any other kind of cattle, too. When they do—watch out.

TV CLEM: What makes 'em stampede?

COWBOY SLIM: Oh, different things. Might be other animals, or lightning, or thunder. Sometimes Indians get 'em started, too.

COWBOY TEX: You know, we sing to 'em to quiet 'em down so they won't stampede.

TV PETE: Say, I've heard some of your music, and it's pretty square stuff. Why not give 'em some of the beat music we got going?

COWBOY TEX: We'd have a *real* stampede on our hands if we did that.

TV BILL: Anything else give you a bad time?

COWBOY BOB: Well, we run into blizzards, heat waves, or maybe empty water holes.

TV CLEM: If you have such rough times, why do you move all those cattle around?

COWBOY SLIM: Are you kidding? People in the towns and cities need meat and leather. We drive the cattle to the places where the railroads can pick 'em up. Last month we drove a thousand head of cattle. This is the way we make our money.

TV PETE: How much do you guys make for your work?

COWBOY SLIM: Oh, maybe thirty dollars a month. How about you?

TV PETE: Well, I make more in one day than you make in one month.

COWBOY TEX: That's hard for me to believe, partner.

TV BILL: Say, what are you doing with so many horses?

COWBOY BOB: We need 'em all. You guys always stick with one horse. We have maybe three or four horses for each man, so we don't work one of 'em to death.

TV CLEM: Well, we work hard, too. We practice twirling six-shooters. We practice fighting with each other. We get hit on the head with fake bottles. And we do all this in front of some very hot TV lights. That's what we do.

COWBOY SLIM: Hey, wait a minute, there. Wait just a minute. Say, are you supposed to be like *real* cowboys?

TV PETE: That's us.

TV CLEM: That's us.

COWBOY TEX: Oh, you must be kidding. Where are the Negroes? And the Mexicans? Take a good look at us. Why, I know from riding the range all these years, there are plenty of Negro and Mexican cowboys.

TV BILL: No kidding. Well, that gives us something to really think about.

TV CLEM: You know, you real guys did something special. You helped our country grow into something big. Americans have a lot to be proud of when they think about the cowboy.

COWBOY BOB: Well, when you pass out the credit, save a little for the cowboys who came 'way before us. You know, the ones that gave us some ideas about what to wear and how to do things.

TV PETE: Like who?

COWBOY SLIM: Well, I'm talking about the early Spanish vaqueros. You know, we got a lot of our ideas from them. They were the first *real* cowboys.

Enrichment 3: THE INDIANS OF THE GREAT PLAINS

For hundreds of years, only Indians lived on the Great Plains. By the 1860's Americans began to live on the Great Plains too. Now, cowboys, ranchers, miners, and farmers came in larger and larger numbers. The Indians saw that these newcomers were taking their last hunting grounds. The Indians fought to protect their land. We know, of course, that the Indians fought a losing battle.

EARLY INDIANS

The earliest Indians of the Great Plains were not like the Indians that the settlers met. The early Indians wandered about on foot, following large buffalo herds. When the Indians could not keep up with the buffalo, they suffered or died. These early Indians used dogs to haul their belongings.

Then, in 1541, some Indians saw a strange sight. They watched in amazement as hundreds of Spaniards rode across their lands on strange, four-footed animals. At first, they thought the man and the horse—for that is what the strange animal was—were all one animal. They did not know it then, but this strange animal was going to change their whole life.

WILD HORSES

Soon, other Spaniards came and brought more of the horses. Some of these horses escaped; and soon, wild horses roamed the plains. One day an Indian caught one of these horses, tamed him, and rode him. Other Indians caught other horses and did the same. Indians could now have fast horses to help them hunt buffalo. Of course, all of this did not happen at once. It took time. But, by the time the American settlers came, the Indians had built their whole way of life around riding horses to hunt buffalo.

THE BUFFALO

The buffalo meant life to the Indians. Millions of buffaloes roamed the plains. It was easy for the Indian on horseback to hunt them down. The buffalo meat meant food. The hide meant moccasins and clothes. The buffalo's summer skin meant tepees. The bones meant tools for farming. The horns meant spoons and cups.

THE INDIANS FIGHT BACK

The Indians watched the settlers in the plains at first; then, they tried to fight back. They were no match for the settlers. The settlers had rifles. They could quickly bring in many more men by railroad. They had one government, in Washington, D.C.; while, most of the time, the many Indian tribes tried to fight separately. It was only a matter of time until the settlers crushed the way of life of the Indians. By 1890, practically all Indian resistance had ended.

WHAT TO DO?

The United States government was never quite sure what to do with the Indians. The government tried to place Indians on large areas of land called reservations. It also tried to make farmers of them. The government tried to make them part of the American way of life. Nothing seemed to work very well. There just did not seem to be room for the old Indian way of life. The story of the American Indian is a sad one. The reservations did not solve the problems of the Indians. Americans have not solved these problems yet, but they continue to try.

ACTIVITY 1

LOST AND FOUND

All of these things recently were turned in to lost-and-found. Help us return them to their owners. On your paper, make four columns and write Indian at the top of one of the columns, Cowboy at the top of the second, Miner at the top of the third, and Farmer at the top of the fourth. Now, place each thing in this list in the correct column.

empty six-shooter
worn-out saddle
10-gallon hat
tepee
dull ax
broken plow
rusty pan
cracked wagon wheel
one spur
tangled lariat (rope)
tired old mule
cup made from buffalo horn
pick and shovel
rusty barbed wire
torn moccasins
arrow

ACTIVITY 2

FOR OR AGAINST

Pretend that you lived over a hundred years ago. Your father wants to move west. He calls for a family meeting to talk it over and decide whether the family should go. If you are a girl, list three good arguments why you should not go west. If you are a boy, list three good arguments why you should go west.

CHAPTER REVIEW DISCUSSION

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. What is meant by the word pioneer when we use it today?
2. Why did the settlers become interested in the Great Plains?
3. What are some of the differences between real cowboys and most TV cowboys? Is it important to know these differences? Explain your answer.

PETE AND BOB: THE INDIANS

Pete says: "Too bad about the Indians, but they stood in the way of progress. If we had not pushed them aside, we could not have grown into a great nation."

Bob says: "I do not care about what we call progress. We should not have pushed the Indian off his land."

What do you think? Do you agree with Pete or Bob? Why?

END

6-10-69